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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Chief, Industrial Division

DATE: 1 May 1957

FROM : Acting Chief, Consumer Industries Branch

SUBJECT: Monthly Report for April 1957

1. Accomplishmentsa. Projects Completed

- (1) Three more parts of "Progress and Problems of the European Satellite Economics in 1956" (10.1509) were completed by the European Satellites section - 25X1A9a
25X1A9a these parts are the production statistics for light industry through 1956, statistics on foreign trade in light industry products and an evaluation of foreign trade data in 3 Satellite yearbooks, and living standards in the Satellites.
- (2) Another revision of Project 38.910, now entitled "Hungarian Light Industry, 1947-57," was made in April by 25X1A9a this revision places the report in the context of the Hungarian rebellion of October 1956.
- (3) As part of his work on "Industrial Capital Investment in Light Industry in Communist China" (30.1535), 25X1A9a completed a compilation of investment and production data requested on a rush basis by 25X1A9a 25X1A9a coordinator of the series of Chinese investment projects.

b. Status of Other Projects

- 25X1A9a (1) continued work on two projects, "Soviet Ruble-Dollar Ratios for Consumer Goods" (10.1626) and "Price Trends in Consumer Expenditure in the USSR" (30.1534).
- 25X1A9a (2) started work on "Expenditures on Consumer Services in the USSR" (30.1771).
- 25X1A9a (3) started work on synthetic fibers and fabrics in USSR, work that should result in an IM at least.

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- 25X1A9a (4) [REDACTED] started work on "The Housing Problems in the European Satellites" (38.1741).
- 25X1A9a (5) [REDACTED] started work on Section 64 of the Czechoslovakian NIS.
- 25X1A9a (6) [REDACTED] continued work on "Domestic Trade in Communist China" (38.1648).
- 25X1A9a (7) [REDACTED] started work on "Communist China's Imports and Exports, 1956" (40.1525); he has found the information for light industry products sparse.

2. Training

- 25X1A9a a. [REDACTED] continued to conduct the ORR Statistics Course, "Introduction to Economic Statistics."
- 25X1A9a b. [REDACTED] started the ORR Report Writing Course.
- 25X1A9a c. [REDACTED] continued the ORR Statistics Course.

3. Trips and Speeches

None

4. Administration

- a. A review with you and the Deputy Division Chief of the performance and ability of branch personnel showed that the prospects of promoting the most valuable and deserving members of the branch are good.
- b. On 12 April [REDACTED] began work as branch secretary in the absence of [REDACTED], on leave indefinitely because of a family emergency.
- 25X1A9a

5. Plans

- a. The branch research program for FY 58 is fixed as of now; unknown quantities remaining are the possible Polish NIE for FY 58 and the possible departure of [REDACTED] to Harvard for training in the next academic year.
- 25X1A9a
- b. One possible avenue for use of the branch's uncommitted research time is the study of an economic phenomenon that is appearing in amazingly parallel fashion in all the Bloc economies, namely, the relaxation of control over the volume of wage and pension payments at the same time production of consumer goods is increasing at a much smaller rate.

6. Problems

Nothing to report.

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